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UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

AFI 1712

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Kathy E. Smith
Dated: September 17, 2003

PF 84 PCT

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Applicant : Pascal LOMBARDIN, et al.
Serial No. : 09/743,248
Filed : March 6, 2001
Title : Thixotropic Formulations for Filling Hard Capsules
Art Unit : 1712
Examiner : Richard D. LOVERING, Esq.

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Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

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RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR §§ 1.111 AND 1.115

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action, a **Final Rejection**, dated June 19, 2003, kindly amend as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS: See Listing of Claims which will replace all prior versions of claims in the application.

REMARKS

The Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's Office Action of June 19, 2003 with appreciation. Claims 1,2, and 4-11 remain pending. The Office maintains rejections under 35 USC §§ 102(e), 103(a), and 112, second paragraph.

To begin, Claims 4, 5 and 7 are rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, for failing to claim with particularity.